

Hope UCC Weekly Update: July 13, 2025

There is always something happening at Hope UCC, so we thought we would add a weekly announcement feature to the bulletin that is mailed and emailed out to everyone. This Weekly Update will provide you with announcements, information, and updates on all that is going on in our community – at church and beyond.

Pastor Carol's Office Hours

Pastor Carol's office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am-12pm or by appointment.

Hope UCC at General Synod!

Hope UCC's own Lindsey Svetlick will be in Kansas City, MO, for the 35th General Synod of the UCC from July 11-15. The theme this year is "Into the Deep" and Lindsey will have the opportunity to serve as a voting delegate for our Illinois Conference. Many resolutions will be discussed, debated, and voted on during this Synod. In addition, Lindsey will experience exciting worship services as well as attend many interesting and educational workshops – all with UCC clergy and laity from all over the United States. This is a tremendous opportunity for Lindsey as she continues her Member in Discernment journey and we are so proud to have her representing Hope UCC and our Western Association of the Illinois Conference at this important gathering. Way to go, Lindsey!! We can't wait to hear all about your adventures at our General Synod. God bless you and safe travels.

Hope UCC Book Club July 28th at 2:30 p.m.

Hope UCC's Book Club will be meeting on Monday, July 28th at 2:30 p.m. The book selection is The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah.

Ruth Circle: July 17th at 5pm



Ruth Circle will be meeting on July 17th at 5pm for a boot stomping good time at Late Rider, a country western bar & grill. Their address is 1405 5th Avenue in Moline. We will have dinner as well as live music. As always, all are welcome. Please call Dorothy Burdick if you have questions.



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL Worship Bulletin July 13, 2025 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Reverend Carol Holtz-Martin Thank you for joining us for worship today. We are glad you are here! Because you are who you are. you are welcome here! *Those who are able, please stand.



Singing through the Lord's Prayer: Your will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven -PRELUDE "Softly and Tenderly" by W. L Thompson; arr. by Chris Cooke; Laurel-Horn; Greq-Trombone

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*COMING TOGETHER AS A WORSHIP COMMUNITY

One: God calls together a divine council to render judgment. God holds a plumb line to measure our faithfulness.

- Many: Who can stand before the judgments of God? How shall we know what God expects of us?
- One Lift up your prayers for God's mercy. Earnestly seek to know the ways of truth and salvation.
- Many: Can we distinguish faithfulness from popular success? What must we do to inherit eternal life?
- One: God's judgment comes to all nations of the earth. God's covenant with us involves care for all people.
- Many: Will God deliver us from the hands of the wicked? Will God put an end to wanton treachery?



*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

Almighty God, we tremble with the knowledge that you know all our thoughts and deeds and judge them by your perfect will. Yet we are bold to protest the evil around us that seems to go unpunished. So many innocent and good people die randomly or suffer cruelly. How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? O God, we know this is really your question for us. Help us to take seriously these moments of encounter with you, knowing we can trust you to be just. Amen.



*OFFERING OUR CONFESSION

Our God, you rightfully expect more from us who call ourselves the church. Yet we fall short. Forgive our easy compliance with the world's ways; our ease with accepting advantages that are unavailable to so many; our failure to call oppressors to account; and our indifference to suffering that is not our own. Redeem us, O God! Amen.

*RECEIVING THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

LEARNING FROM OUR CHILDREN



PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also, with you.

One: Let us pray: ...

With the assurance Jesus offers, together we pray the words Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 25

- One: ¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- Many: ² O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.
- One: ³ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
- Many: ⁴ Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

- One: ⁶ Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- Many: ⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!
- One: ⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. ⁹ He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.
- Many:¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Colossians 1:3-14

Paul thanks God for the Colossians

³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷ This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:1-10

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

SERMON

Thy Kingdom, Thy Will "The word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe." Deuteronomy 30:14

SERMON HYMN The Lord's Prayer

Dear Lord, who art wherever love abideth May all the earth revere thy holy name; Thy kingdom come in all its power and beauty In all our hearts, over all the earth, we pray; Thy will be done each of us true to duty In all we think, in all we do and say.



SHARING OUR GIFTS

You shall love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. This love motivates our

giving. As God has loved us, we return that love in our offering of energy, time, and resources. Hope UCC thanks you for the gifts you share with this congregation. Your offering enables us to live into our mission. Offering plates are located near the Sanctuary doors.

BLESSING OUR GIFTS

May these gifts and our lives bear fruit in many good works, increasing among all people knowledge of God, patience and endurance, wisdom and understanding, love and joy. We would act with compassion toward one another and toward neighbors near and far. Thankful for the mercy you have shown us, we pledge ourselves and these offerings to extend mercy to all. Amen.



CLOSING HYMN

NCH #300 Jesus Shall Reign Verse 1 All Verse 2 Men Verse 3 Women Verses 4-5 All



*BENEDICTION

One: Grace to you, and peace, from God our Creator. Continue this day your love for all the saints.

- Many: We will love God with our whole being. We will care for ourselves and others as God's children.
- One: Be filled with spiritual wisdom and understanding. Bear fruit and grow in good works by God's power.
- Many: We pray for discernment and empowerment. We seek to live with patience, endurance, and joy.
- One: God's compassion surrounds you today and always. Live as people delivered from the power of evil.
- Many: We acknowledge the dominion of Jesus Christ among us. We will carry the spirit of Christ within us. Amen.



POSTLUDE Singing through the Lord's Prayer: Hallowed be Your name - "Shout to the Lord"; By Darlene Zschech; Arr. by Laura Haythornthwaite; Mary Tallitsch, piano; Laurel, violin; Greg, vocals

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Serving in Worship Today

Reverend Carol Holtz-Martin

Liturgist: Marilyn Rada

Ministers of Music: Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel

Accompanist: Mary Tallitsch

Greeter: Kathy Hobson

Fellowship Hour: Marcella Park, Ken Curtis, Bob Morales

<u>Audio-Visual Ministry</u>: Jenny Hookey, Donna Werner, Bob Tallitsch, Kathy Hobson, Bob Poor, Bek Svetlick

TRUST, GUIDANCE



Text: African American spiritual Music: African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version Arr. © 2007 Auguburg Portress



The second half of a longer paraphrase of Psalm 72, this hymn was included in Isaac Watts' Psalms of David, a collection of psalm-based poems with New Testament orientation. John Hatton once lived on Duke Street in St. Helen's, Lancaster, England.

Tune: DUKE STREET L.M. Attrib. to John Hatton, c. 1793